



Survey of c. 1,000
UK Cattle Health Scheme Members

Completed March 2019

Introduction

A survey of CHeCS-accredited cattle health scheme members was conducted in December 2018. It ran over three weeks on Survey Monkey, with 4x£50 high street shopping vouchers offered to four entrants drawn at random after the survey closed. Around 8,000 members of the UK-based cattle health schemes were sent the survey and 983 surveys were completed.

The survey set out to determine what types of farms were engaged in cattle health schemes, why they had joined, which ones were benefitting, what those benefits were, and whether there were any barriers and opportunities to further scheme uptake.

The survey was deliberately anonymised to encourage frank responses. However, those wishing to enter the survey were asked to provide an email address or phone number so they could be contacted if drawn, and those willing to take part in a case study in the future were also asked to provide contact details.

The questions asked were:

- Which country, state or area do you mainly farm in?
- And mostly in which county?
- How is most of the area you farm generally classified for TB purposes?
- Which of the following cattle enterprises do you have, and which of those animals do you include in your Health Scheme?
Tick as appropriate
- What total head of cattle do you have at any one time, on average?
- Do you consider that you run a 'closed herd'?
- Which is the main Health Scheme you are a member of?
- How long have you been a member of this specific Health Scheme?
- How did you first hear about your Health Scheme?
- What were the main diseases you were trying to control when you joined your Health Scheme? Please tick all that apply.
- And what was main reason for working through a Health Scheme rather than taking another approach?
- How would you rate your success in achieving this goal, so far?
- Have you calculated any likely financial benefits from participating in this Health Scheme?
- Which areas do these financial benefits relate to? Please tick all that apply.
- If possible, please indicate the estimated average financial benefit in total for your business each year, in £.
- When did you last buy in any cattle?
- Where do you buy live cattle from? Please tick all that apply.
- How rigorous are the biosecurity measures required by your Health Scheme?
- How appropriate are the biosecurity measures required by your Health Scheme?
- How rigorously do you feel the Health Scheme enforces its standards to ensure all members are complying?
- If your neighbour/s participate in a CHeCS-accredited Health Scheme, do you think this improves your chances of controlling disease on your farm?
- Is bovine TB a concern to you?
- Do you believe the biosecurity measures applied as part of your Health Scheme also have the potential to reduce your risk of a TB breakdown?
- If you have had a TB breakdown in the past, please state how many years ago it was (please put '0' if it was within the past year or 'Never' if you have not had a breakdown)

Headline Findings

- Over 50% of respondents first heard about joining their Health Scheme from their vet. This suggests a strong emphasis on health and welfare and associated benefits.
- While the main reason stated for almost half of herds (45%) joining is to obtain official accreditation, another 45% joined for a combination of reasons relating to herd health – i.e., to get a healthier herd, to get targeted advice, to obtain access to protocols and testing, and to save money on testing.
- However, there is a definite bias towards membership from smaller suckler herds – probably pedigree – within the scheme members surveyed, with those who are bigger or dairy-based (commercial) less clear about the benefits and the measures involved.
- 30% have examined the financial benefits of joining, and while around half of these say marketing options have improved and each animal is worth more, a large number also report that animals are more productive (46%), there are fewer losses (45%) and Vet and Med costs have reduced (27%).
- The financial benefits estimated by those who submitted figures (16% of the sample) suggested these benefits could be in the region of £15 (median) to £35 (mean).
- The two leading diseases being targeted by members were Johne's Disease (83%) and BVD (78%); around a third of respondents were targeting each of Leptospirosis and IBR.
- 34% are reporting 'Excellent' progress against their diseases, and 49% are reporting 'Good' progress. Those targeting Leptospirosis and IBR report slightly higher satisfaction rates, but not significantly so.
- 55% think disease control is 'Definitely' helped if their neighbours are also in a Health Scheme, and 33% think it is 'Probably' helped.
- 81% think the Health Scheme biosecurity is 'Very' or 'Quite' rigorous, and 82% think it is appropriate, However, less than 60% think it is 'Very' or 'Quite' rigorously enforced.
- The level of concern about Bovine TB changes with region, rising particularly in the High Risk areas of England (North West, Midlands, South, South West), and in Wales.
- Far more dairy herds are 'Very' worried (45%) and 'Quite' worried (31%) about Bovine TB compared with suckler herds (25% and 24% respectively).
- 52% of respondents in the High Risk TB areas believe the biosecurity measures required by the Health Schemes, 'Definitely' or 'Probably' reduce risk of a TB breakdown, and a further 15% believe they 'Possibly' do.
- Over half of the sample who believe they run a 'closed herd' bought in cattle within the past two years. There is confusion over what 'closed herd' means.
- There is more disbelief, scepticism or confusion/lack of awareness among dairy farmers about the biosecurity measures and benefits than among suckler producers.
- While the sample is not weighted and should not be regarded as representative, there is a very strong following for and uptake of Health Schemes in Scotland, possibly because of BVD eradication.

Survey results

Note: rounding may result in some tables adding to greater or less than 100%

A. Survey respondents – breakdown

The survey respondents mainly came from three schemes (Table 1).

Table 1

Health Scheme respondents	Number	%
PCHS SAC	458	46.6
HiHealth Herdcare Biobest	329	33.5
NML Herdwise	134	13.6
AFBI	26	2.6
CIS	11	1.1
NML BVD Herdcheck	11	1.1
Shetland AHS	7	0.7
Other	7	0.7
Total	983	100

Half the respondents came from England and over a third from Scotland (Table 2).

Table 2

Country	Number	%
England	500	50.9
Scottish mainland	369	37.5
Wales	75	7.6
Northern Ireland	36	3.7
Other (eg Isle of Man)	3	0.3
Total	983	100

The enterprises run by respondents (Table 3) are heavily weighted towards suckler herds. By comparison, 21% of the sample have dairy cows. A lower percentage of dairy youngstock than suckler youngstock are registered on their health scheme (69% to 90% respectively). According to the responses given, a surprisingly high number of store cattle, finishing cattle and beef calves (76%, 70% and 63% respectively) are included in the health schemes.

Table 3

Enterprise	No. of respondents with enterprise	% of sample	No. of these in health scheme	% of these in health scheme
Suckler cows	783	79.6	771	98.5
Suckler youngstock	634	64.5	569	89.8
Store cattle	351	35.7	268	76.4
Finishing cattle	292	29.7	205	70.2
Dairy cows	210	21.4	205	97.6
Dairy youngstock	199	20.2	137	68.8
Beef calves <=12wks	169	17.2	107	63.3

Only four respondents had all seven enterprises and 25 had both dairy cow and suckler cow herds. Those who had dairy cow or suckler cows herds also had a variety of other enterprises (Tables 4 and 5).

Table 4

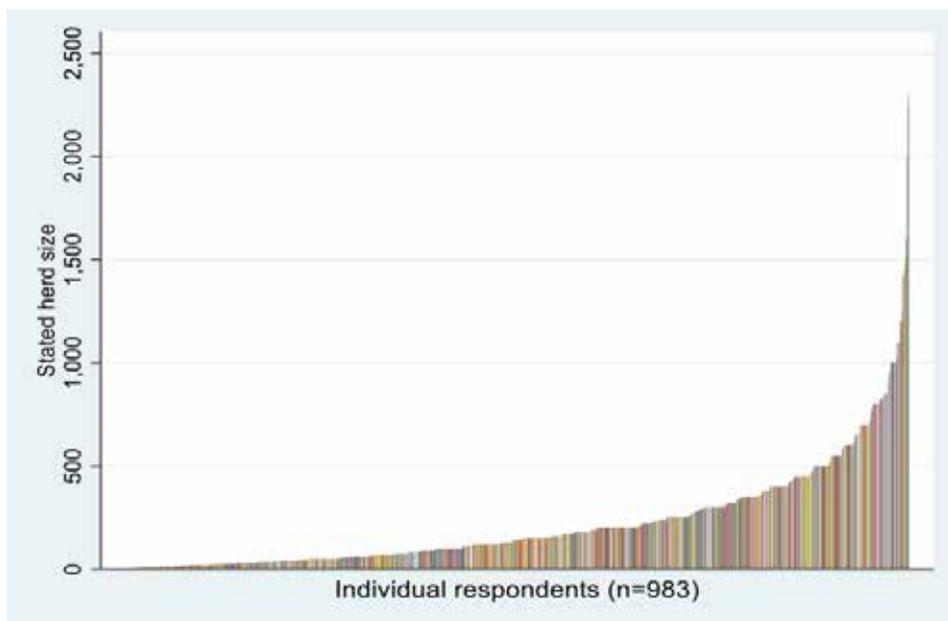
Of those with dairy cows	Number	%
Dairy cows	210	100.0
Dairy youngstock	195	92.9
Suckler cows	25	11.9
Suckler youngstock/followers	26	12.4
Beef calves under 12 weeks	73	34.8
Store cattle	53	25.2
Finishing cattle	38	18.1

Table 5

Of those with suckler cows	Number	%
Suckler cows	783	100.0
Dairy cows	25	3.2
Dairy youngstock	26	3.3
Suckler youngstock/followers	617	78.8
Beef calves under 12 weeks	111	14.2
Store cattle	308	39.3
Finishing cattle	262	33.5

The mean total head of cattle (all cattle not just adult breeding animals) on the farm at any one time was 222 (suckler herds, 175 head; dairy herds, 447 head). The median of total head of cattle was, however, 140, suggesting that several larger herds are pushing the average up. In fact, the range of herd sizes was from 2 to 2,300 head, with each respondent's answer ordered in Figure 1 in ascending order of size.

Figure 1



For the purposes of analysing responses by size of herd, the mean head of cattle of 222 has been selected as the central point. So those with 222 head of cattle in total or fewer (n=659) have been defined as 'small' herds, and those with more than 222 head (n=324) have been defined as 'large'.

B. Closed herds

When asking respondents whether they considered they ran a closed herd, 70% of all those answering this question (n=980) said they did, and 23% said they didn't (Table 6). However, a further 40 (4%) respondents replied 'other' saying they did but this was with the exception of buying stock bulls, and 21 (2%) said they were 'nearly' closed – either working towards it or only buying stock from accredited herds. Almost half of respondents had bought cattle within the last year (Table 7).

Table 6

Closed herd?	Number	%
Yes	694	70.9
No	225	23.0
Yes excluding bulls	40	4.1
Almost	21	2.1
Total	980	100

Table 7

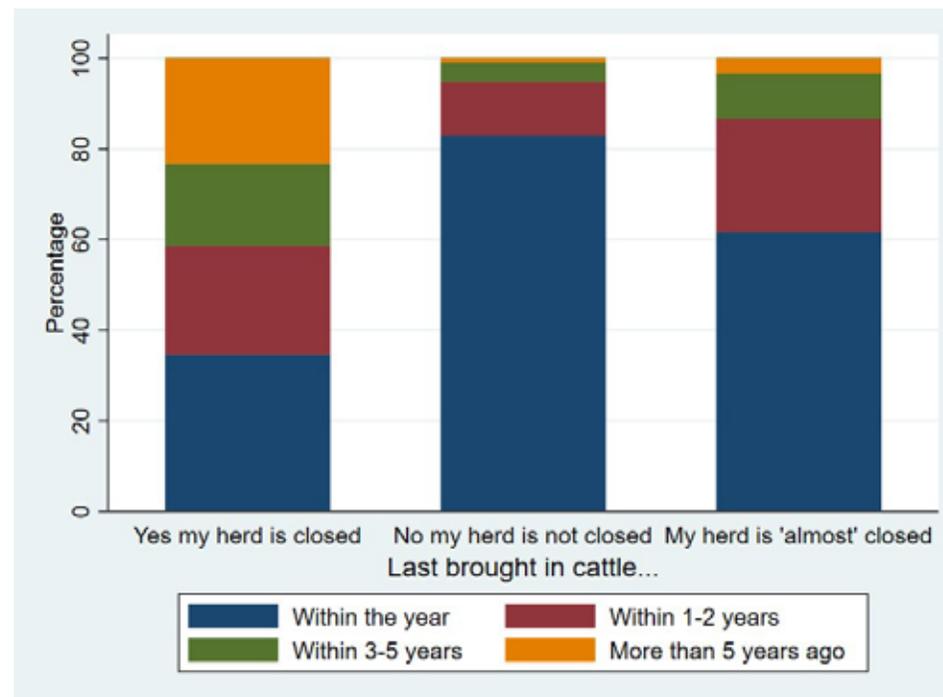
Last bought cattle	Number	%
Within year	445	47.4
1-2yrs	199	21.2
3-5yrs	136	14.5
>5yrs	159	16.9
Total	939	100

This suggests that a far higher number judging their herd to be 'closed' still buy in cattle – although this is possibly only stock/breeding bulls. But as an option for buying bulls wasn't specifically offered, it is only those volunteering the information (n=40, as above) that we are aware of. Cross referencing those who answered both questions (Table 8 and Figure 2) shows that 231 respondents (35%) said they ran a closed herd yet had bought in cattle within the last year, and a total of 390 (59%) had done so within the past two years.

Table 8

	Last bought cattle				Total
	Within year	1-2yrs	3-5yrs	>5yrs	
Closed herd?					
Yes	231	159	121	155	666
%	34.7	23.9	18.2	23.3	100
No	175	25	9	2	211
%	82.9	11.8	4.3	0.9	100
Yes exc bulls	20	13	4	2	39
%	51.3	33.3	10.3	5.1	100
Almost	17	2	2	0	21
%	81.0	9.5	9.5	0	100
Total	443	199	136	159	937
%	47.3	21.2	14.5	17.0	100

Figure 2



When breaking down the 'closed' status of the herd by enterprise, there is not a significant difference between the percentage who have a dairy herd they say is closed, and those who have a suckler herd they say is closed. Nor are there significant differences by size of herd or TB risk area.

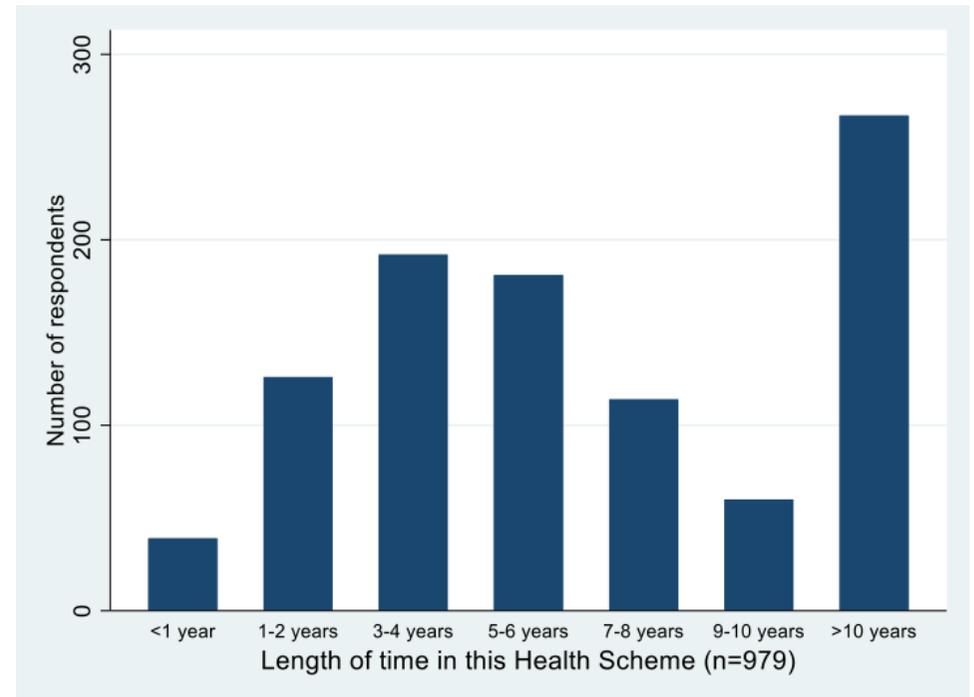
C. Length of time in a Health Scheme

The length of time respondents (n=979) have been in their current Health Scheme has highest numbers in the '>10 years' bracket, which is understandable given the length of time some schemes have been running, with another peak in the '3-4 years' bracket if looking at just the last decade (Table 9 and Figure 3).

Table 9

Time in scheme	Number	%
<1 year	39	4.0
1-2 years	126	12.9
3-4 years	192	19.6
5-6 years	181	18.5
7-8 years	114	11.6
9-10 years	60	6.1
>10 years	267	27.3
Total	979	100

Figure 3

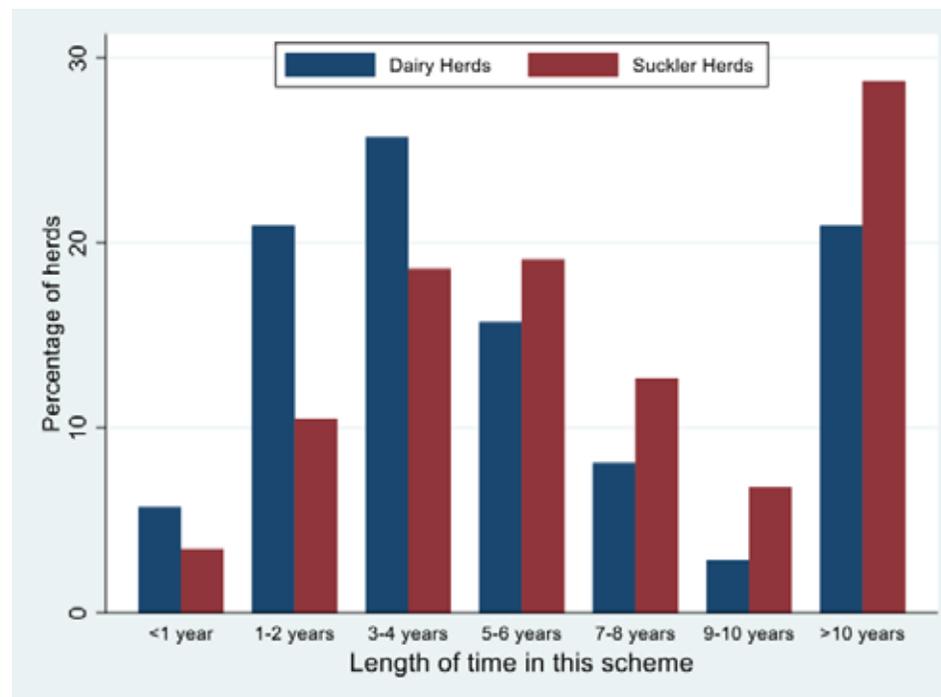


Breaking this down into those with dairy herds and those with suckler herds who answered this question indicates that those with dairy herds are more recent participants in health schemes (Table 10 and Figure 4).

Table 10

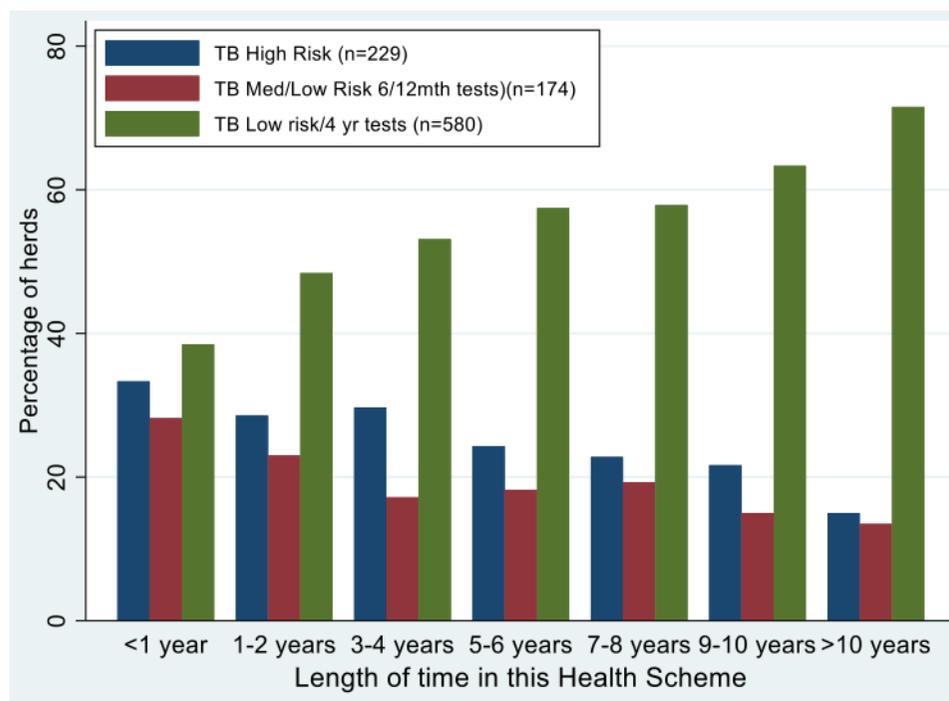
Time in scheme	Dairy herds	Suckler herds
<1 year	12	27
%	5.7	3.5
1-2 years	44	82
%	21.0	10.5
3-4 years	54	145
%	25.7	18.6
5-6 years	33	149
%	15.7	19.1
7-8 years	17	99
%	8.1	12.7
9-10 years	6	53
%	2.9	6.8
>10 years	44	224
%	21.0	28.8
Total	210	779
%	100	100

Figure 4



While size of herd shows that a majority of larger herds have been in schemes for over a decade, no pattern favouring small or large herds emerges over the past 10 years. However, the length of time in the Health Scheme by the TB risk area of the farm suggests more herds from High Risk areas have joined schemes in recent years. The percentage of herds from each risk area by length of time underlines this (Figure 5). Rising numbers of herds joining schemes from High Risk areas could be due to awareness that biosecurity helps, or more possibly because the TB High Risk area has grown.

Figure 5



D. Joining a Health Scheme

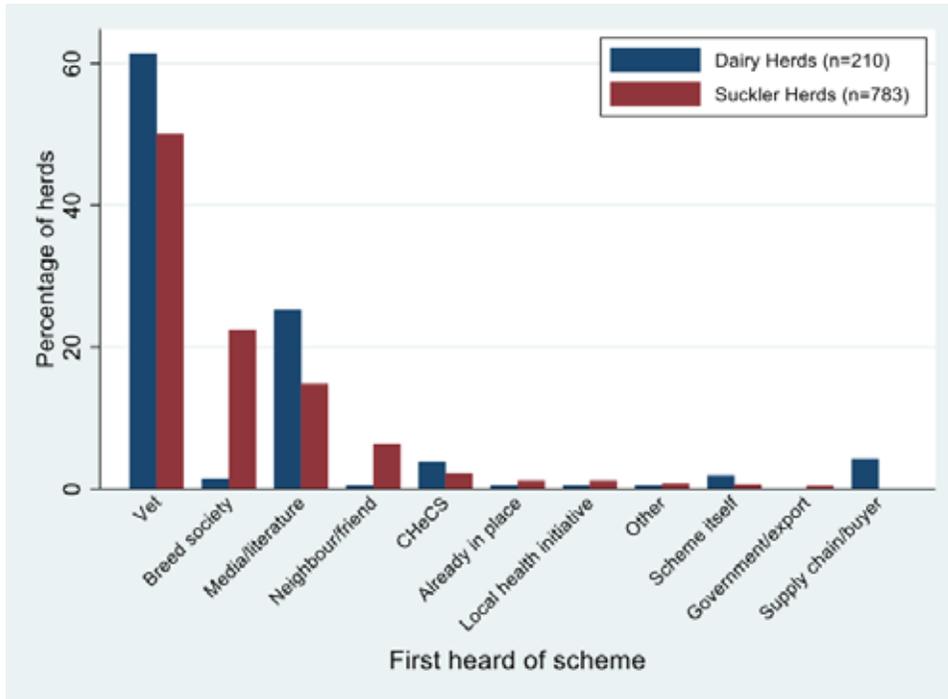
It is clear that vets remain the biggest driver of scheme awareness and uptake, with more than half of respondents first hearing of the scheme from their vet; some are vets themselves, and implemented schemes on their own farms (Table 11).

Table 11

First heard about the scheme	Number	%
From my vet (or I am a vet)	515	52.4
Breed society raised it	182	18.5
In media/literature	162	16.5
From neighbour/friend	52	5.3
From CHeCS itself/website	26	2.6
Herd or farm already involved	10	1.0
Supply chain/buyer requested it	9	0.9
Local health initiative raised it	9	0.9
The scheme itself promoted it	9	0.9
Government/export requirement	3	0.3
Other	6	0.6
Total	983	100

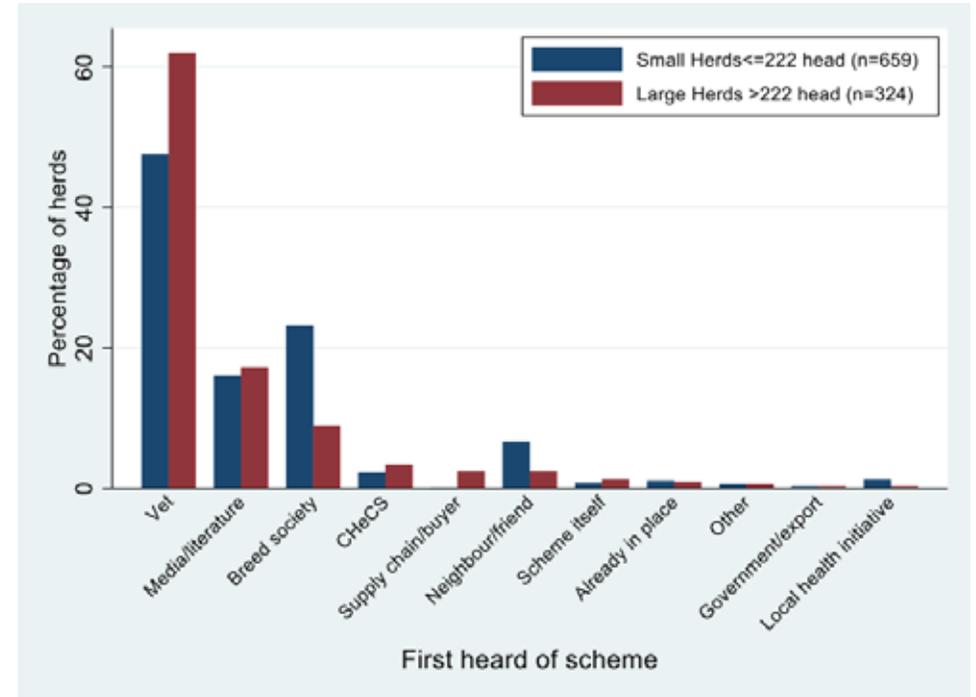
Breaking this down by enterprise shows that breed societies are also important in raising awareness to suckler herds and vets are even more important in dairy herds (Figure 6).

Figure 6



Regarding herd size, vets are also more important in notifying farmers of schemes for large herds than small, possibly because they have more routine contact (Figure 7). Again, breed societies play a bigger role with small herds than large, probably because of smaller pedigree herds. TB Risk Area does not appear to affect how farmers hear of schemes.

Figure 7



The main reason almost half of herds (45%) stated for joining is to obtain official accreditation (Table 12). However, another 45% joined for a combination of reasons relating to herd health – to get a healthier herd, to get targeted advice, to obtain access to protocols and testing, and to save money on testing. Just under 10% said a third party (mainly meat or milk buyer or retailer) asked them to join.

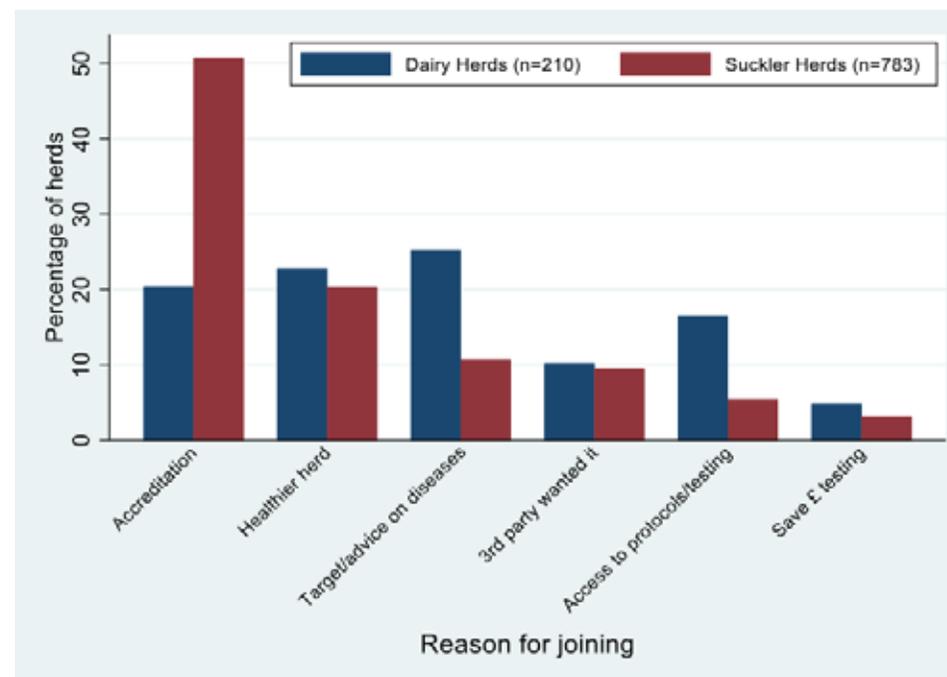
Table 12

Reason for joining	Number	%
Official accreditation	438	45.0
Healthier herd	203	20.9
Targeted advice/support on diseases	133	13.7
A third party wanted it	94	9.7
Access to protocols/testing	72	7.4
Save money on testing	33	3.4
Total	973	100

This confirms the suspicion that many farmers (and possibly vets) associate CHeCS-accredited health schemes with pedigree herds and may not necessarily think they have anything to offer commercial units in terms of disease control.

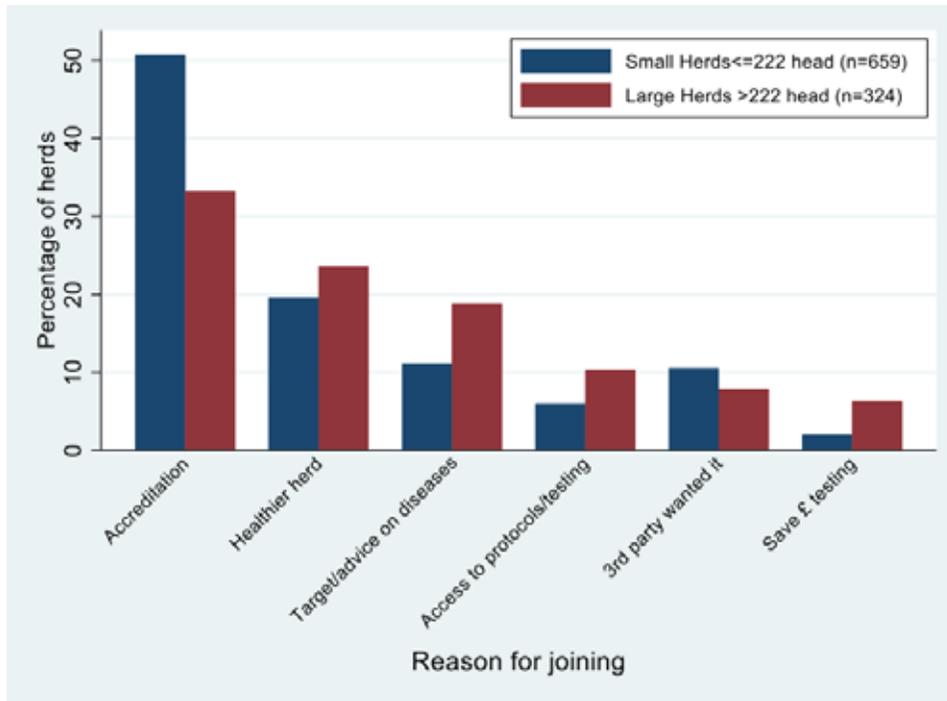
Broken down by enterprise (Figure 8), while 50% of suckler herds joined for accreditation, only 20% of dairy herds did so. The main driver for dairy herds was targeted advice on disease (25%) and a healthier herd (22%).

Figure 8



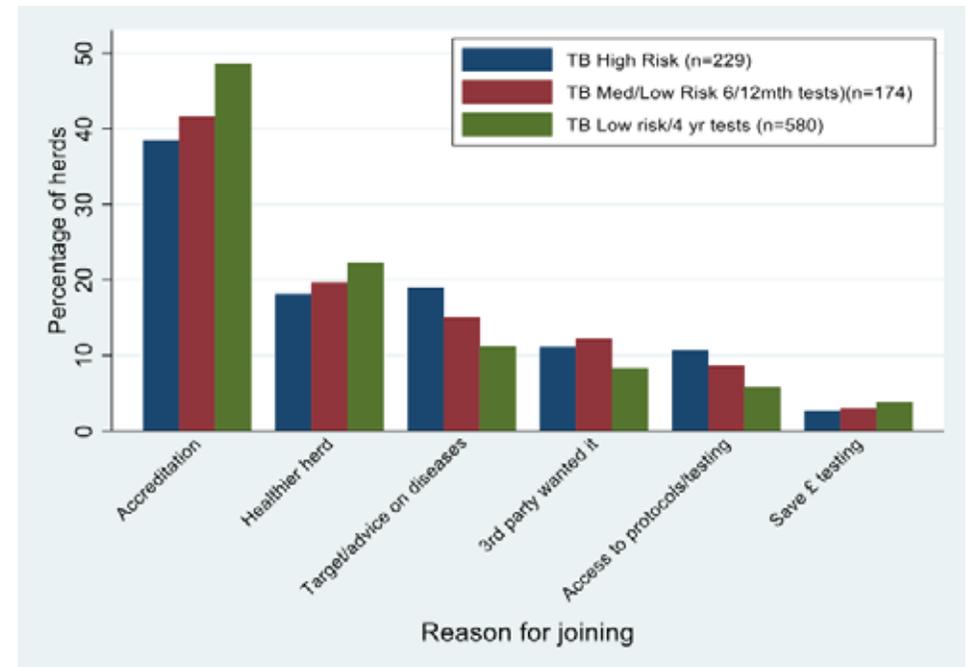
Small herds seemed to lean more heavily towards accreditation as a reason for joining, whereas larger herds valued the opportunity for healthier herds, targeted advice and access to disease control protocols and testing (Figure 9).

Figure 9



Farmers in High Risk TB areas still mainly joined to gain accreditation, but it was a reason for fewer farmers in this area than in Medium and Low Risk areas. Instead, targeted advice was a more frequently selected reason, but not significantly so (Figure 10).

Figure 10



E. Financial benefits of being in a Health Scheme

Respondents were asked whether they had calculated the financial benefits of being in a Health Scheme. Just under 30% said they had (Table 13), and these were then asked to identify which aspects the benefits related to, selecting as many as were relevant (Table 14).

Table 13

Benefit calculated?	Number	%
No	697	70.9
Yes	286	29.1
Total	983	100

Table 14

Financial benefit from...	Number	%
Marketing options have increased	149	52.1
Each animal is worth more individually	139	48.6
Animals are more productive	132	46.2
Fewer losses	128	44.8
Vet and Med costs have reduced	78	27.3

While official recognition – presumably for pedigree sales – again emerges as a leading factor (more marketing options and worth of each animal combined), a large number of respondents selected more productive animals, fewer losses and lower Vet & Med costs.

When asked to estimate the annual financial benefit of being in a Health Scheme, only 156 respondents of the 286 offered a figure, and even then it was very hard to extrapolate to a per-animal-in-the-herd basis. Where the figure was expressed per animal sold rather than the total as requested, this value was assumed to apply to a quarter of the total head of cattle stated, allowing for a 25% turnover of stock per year. The result was a **mean benefit of £35 per herd**, in the herd, but the range was -£25 (two respondents said there was a net cost to being in a Health Scheme) to £364 per head, with a **median of £15**.

F. Diseases

The diseases prioritised by respondents through their Health Schemes shows John's Disease in the lead, followed by BVD (Table 15). IBR and Leptospirosis are being targeted by a third of respondents each. Far fewer respondents use the Health Scheme to help with Neospora and TB control.

Table 15

Disease	No. respondents prioritising	% of sample
Johne's Disease	814	82.8
BVD	770	78.3
IBR	331	33.7
Leptospirosis	325	33.1
TB	126	12.8
Neospora	89	9.0

Breaking this down to dairy and suckler herd responses (Table 16), almost exactly the same percent in each (82-82%) are targeting John's Disease, but while suckler herds are targeting BVD in almost equal number, fewer dairy farmers are doing so.

Table 16

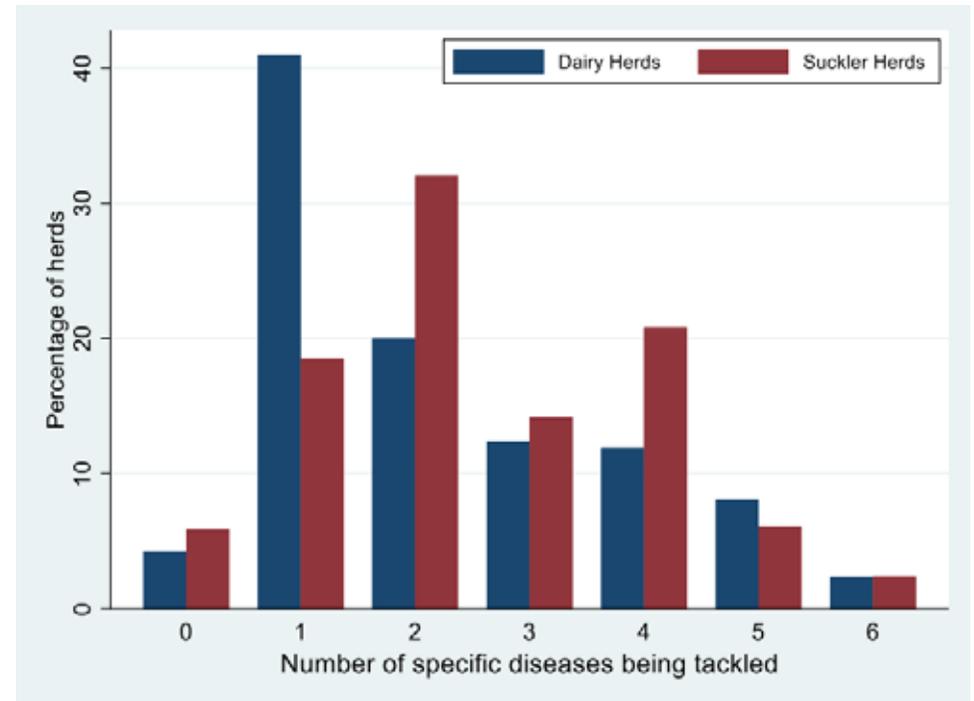
Diseases targeted	Dairy		Suckler	
	Number	%	Number	%
Johne's Disease	173	82.4	647	82.6
BVD	127	60.5	644	82.2
IBR	55	26.2	270	34.5
Leptospirosis	57	27.1	264	33.7
TB	21	10.0	103	13.2
Neospora	30	14.3	58	7.4
Non-specific	7	3.3	43	5.5

Suckler herds also appear to be tackling a higher number of diseases at the same time than dairy herds (Table 17 and Figure 11).

Table 17

Number of diseases	Dairy		Suckler	
	Number	%	Number	%
0	9	4.3	46	5.9
1	86	41.0	145	18.5
2	42	20.0	251	32.1
3	26	12.4	111	14.2
4	25	11.9	163	20.8
5	17	8.1	48	6.2
6	5	2.4	19	2.4

Figure 11



G. Success at tackling diseases

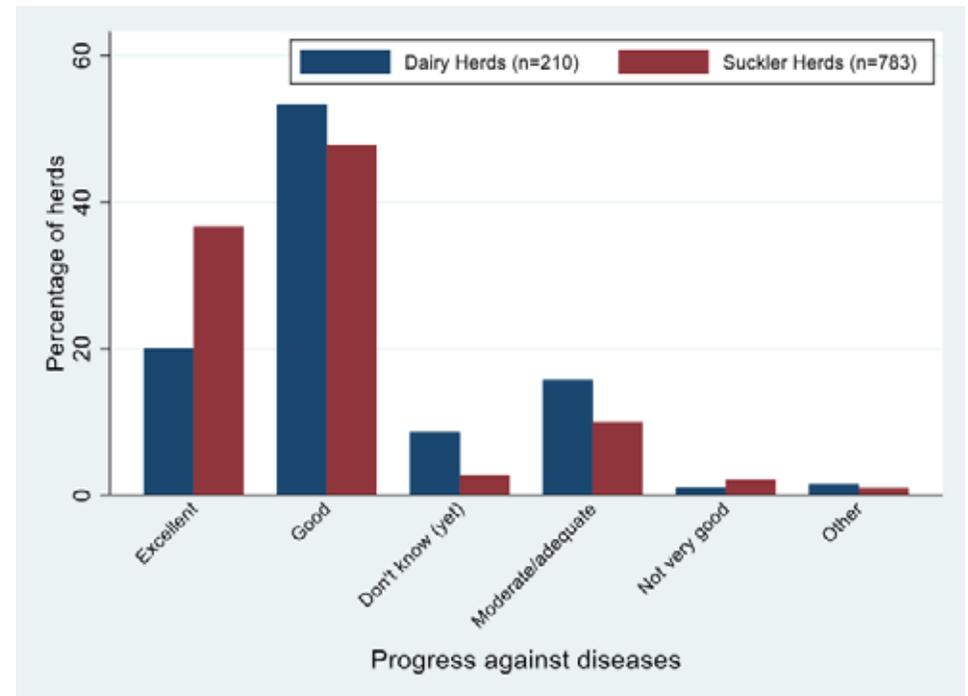
When asked how successful they feel their work with the Health Scheme is in controlling or managing the diseases they are targeting, the vast majority (83%) of respondents answered that progress is 'Excellent' or 'Good' (Table 18).

Table 18

Success	Number	%
Excellent	332	33.8
Good	480	48.8
Don't know (yet)	38	3.9
Moderate/adequate	106	10.8
Not very good	17	1.7
Other	10	1.0
Total	983	100

Breaking down into dairy and suckler herds, the biggest percentage in both said progress was 'Good' with more suckler farms saying progress was 'Excellent' (Figure 12).

Figure 12



When comparing satisfaction with progress against diseases targeted, the respondents with most satisfaction about progress through the Health Scheme are tackling IBR, Leptospirosis and/or BVD within their diseases, whereas the ones with the lowest satisfaction are tackling TB among their diseases (Table 19).

Table 19

Progress	Johne's		BVD		IBR		Leptospirosis		TB		Neospora	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Excellent	250	31	279	36	125	38	124	38	39	31	30	34
Good	412	51	379	49	160	48	156	48	56	44	40	45
Don't know (yet)	33	4	23	3	8	2	7	2	9	7	6	7
Moderate/adequate	95	12	72	9	29	9	29	9	18	14	9	10
Not very good	15	2	10	1	6	2	5	2	33	2	3	3
Other	9	1	7	1	3	1	4	1	1	1	1	1
Total	814	100	770	100	331	100	325	100	156	100	89	100

H. Neighbour involvement in Health Schemes

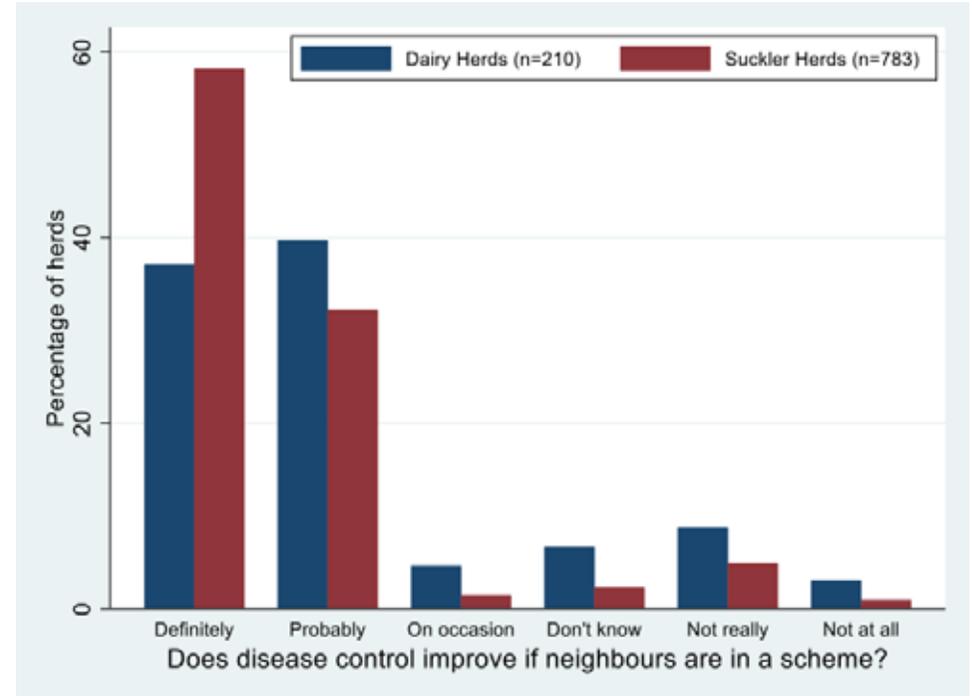
More than half (55%) of respondents who answered a question on whether disease control would be improved if neighbours were in a scheme said it 'Definitely' would, and a further third said it 'Probably' would, totalling nearly 90% (Table 20). Note that 19 respondents who did not provide an answer commented that they had no neighbouring cattle to their farm.

Table 20

Is disease control improved if neighbours are in a scheme?	Number	%
Definitely	503	54.7
Probably	305	33.2
On occasion	20	2.2
Don't know/no view	29	3.2
Not really	51	5.5
Not at all	12	1.3
Total	920	100

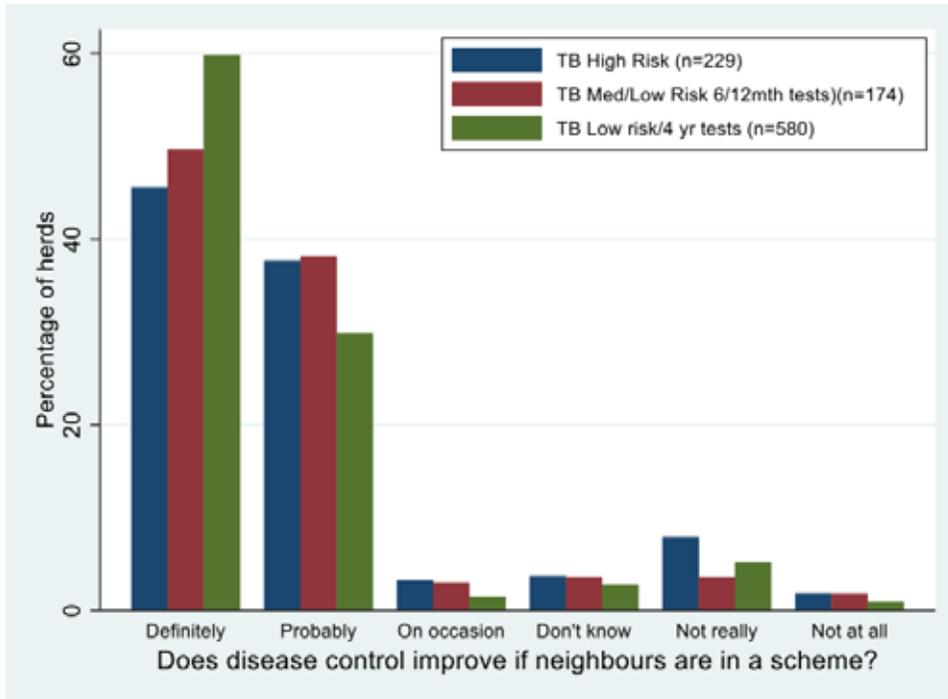
The responses to this question were broken down by enterprise (Figure 13) and found that significantly more suckler herds thought that neighbours being in a Health Scheme would definitely improve disease control, whereas dairy herds tended to say it 'Probably' helped. While small numbers, more dairy herds than suckler herds said the measures would 'Not really' help.

Figure 13



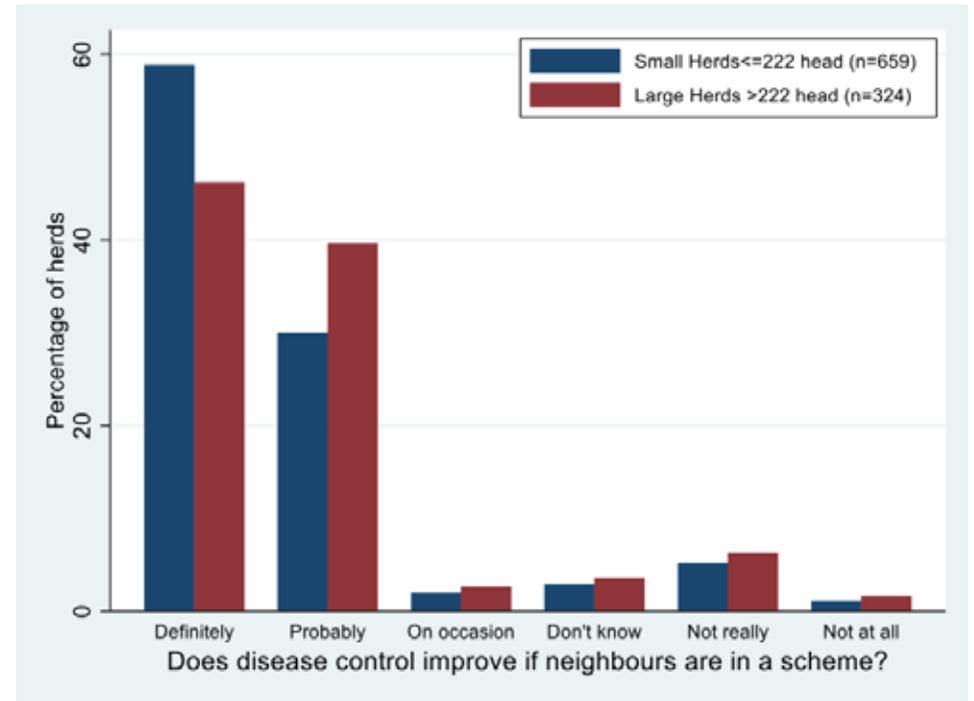
This slightly higher level of disbelief/scepticism was also reflected by TB risk area, where those in lower risk areas were more likely to believe the measures would help (Figure 14).

Figure 14



Small herds also believed more positively in the benefit of neighbours also being in a Health Scheme (Figure 15).

Figure 15



I. Scheme efficacy and standards

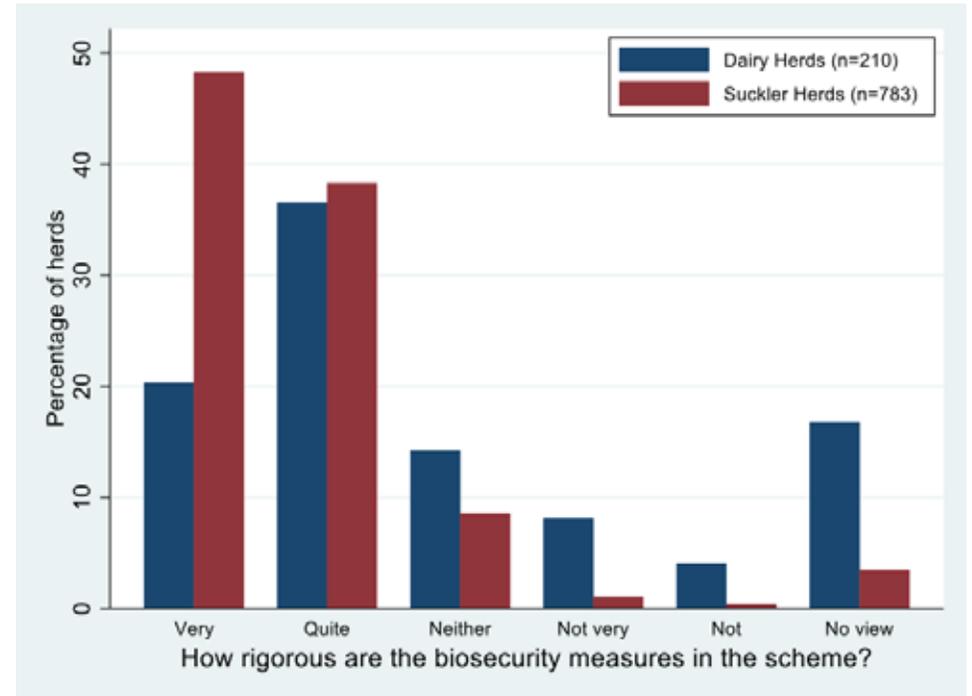
Respondents were asked their views on how rigorous the biosecurity measures were in their scheme, and 939 provided responses. 43% said they were 'Very' rigorous and 38% said 'Quite' rigorous, adding to 81% (Table 21). Only 3% thought they were 'Not very' or 'Not' rigorous.

Table 21

Rigour of biosecurity measures	Number	%
Very	406	43.2
Quite	356	37.9
Neither	91	9.7
Not very	21	2.2
Not	10	1.1
No view	55	5.9
Total	939	100

Suckler herds were far more supportive of the rigour of the biosecurity measures, with dairy herds less so, although still largely positive. Notably, far more dairy herds were neutral or didn't have a view (Figure 16). There was no significant difference in views between herds in different TB risk areas, but smaller herds were again more positive about the rigour of the measures than larger herds, which were more agnostic, possibly related to the attitudes of dairy herds and suckler herds and the effect of the sizes of their herds.

Figure 16



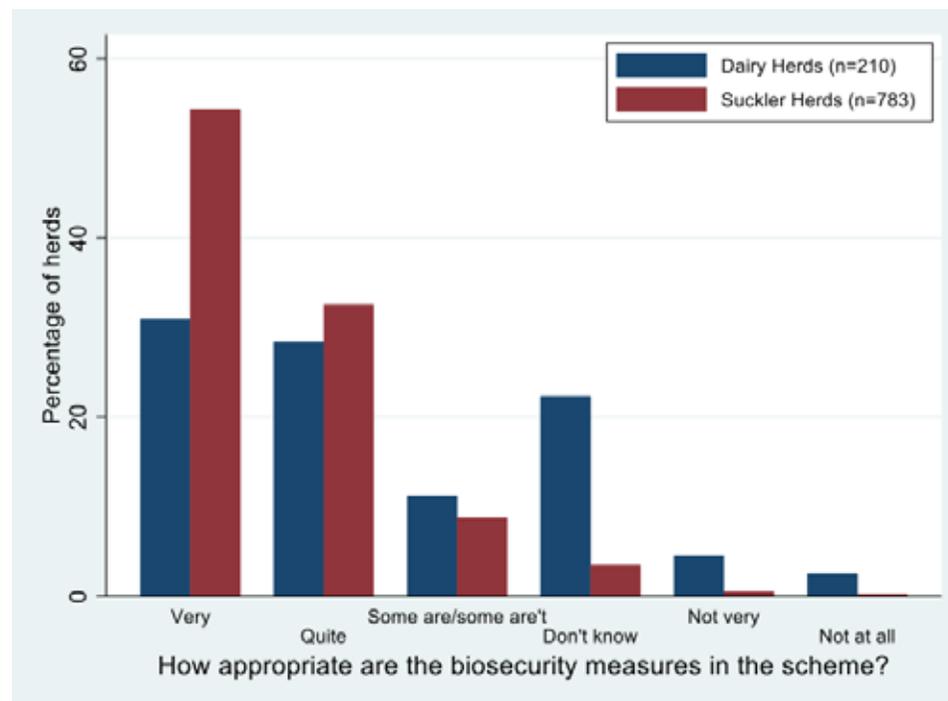
Respondents were then asked about how appropriate the measures were. Half said they were 'Very' relevant, with a further 32% saying 'Quite' relevant (Table 22).

Table 22

How appropriate	Number	%
Very	472	50.3
Quite	297	31.6
Some parts relevant, some not	88	9.4
Don't know/no view	64	6.8
Not very	12	1.3
Not at all	6	0.6
Total	939	100

Breaking this down to enterprise (Figure 17), significantly more suckler herds felt the biosecurity measures were 'Very' (54%) or 'Quite' (33%) appropriate, whereas fewer dairy herds did so (31% and 28% respectively). 22% of dairy herds didn't know, compared with 3% of suckler herds. Those in different TB risk areas or having different herd size showed no significant differences in their views.

Figure 17



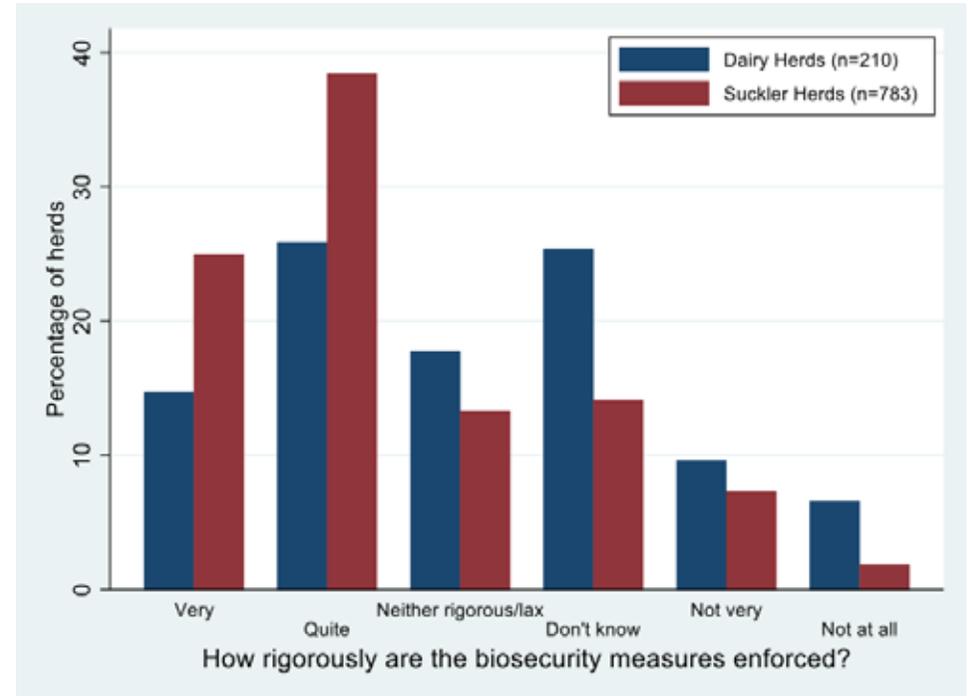
The last question in this section asked how rigorously they felt the standards were enforced. The responses showed less confidence, with more people opting for 'Quite' (n=340, 36%) than for 'Very' (n=219, 23%) (Table 23). Together, these added to less than 60%, showing significantly lower confidence than in the previous two questions.

Table 23

Rigour of enforcement	Number	%
Very	219	23.3
Quite	340	36.2
Don't know/no view	149	15.9
Neither rigorous nor lax	133	14.2
Not very	72	7.7
Not at all	26	2.8
Total	939	100

Notably, dairy herds less confidence than suckler herds (Figure 18) with 15% saying 'Very' and 25% saying 'Quite', compared with 25% of suckler herds saying 'Very' and 38% saying 'Quite'. A quarter of dairy farmers (25%) also said 'Don't know' (suckler herds 14%).

Figure 18



J. Bovine TB

Examining the impact of the schemes on TB, we first asked when respondents had had their last TB breakdown. Of those who responded, almost two thirds (64%) had their last breakdown over 20 years ago or never. 18% had a breakdown within the past 12 months (Table 24).

Table 24

Last TB breakdown	Number	%
Within the year	165	17.7
1-2 years ago	63	6.8
3-5 years ago	56	6.0
6-10 years ago	31	3.3
11-20 years ago	18	1.9
>20 years or never	601	64.4
Total	934	100

When asked about how concerned they were about TB, just under 30% of those that answered this question (n=936) said they were very worried, and 25% were quite concerned (Table 25).

Table 25

Concern about TB	Number	%
Very worried	273	29.2
I am quite concerned	236	25.2
Alert but not concerned	313	33.4
Not really concerned	67	7.2
Not worried at all	47	5.0
Total	936	100

Cross-tabulating the level of concern and geographic area, 921 respondents provided answers to both questions and it is clear that the level of concern changes with region, rising particularly in the High Risk areas of England (North West, Midlands, South, South West), and in Wales (Table 26).

Table 26

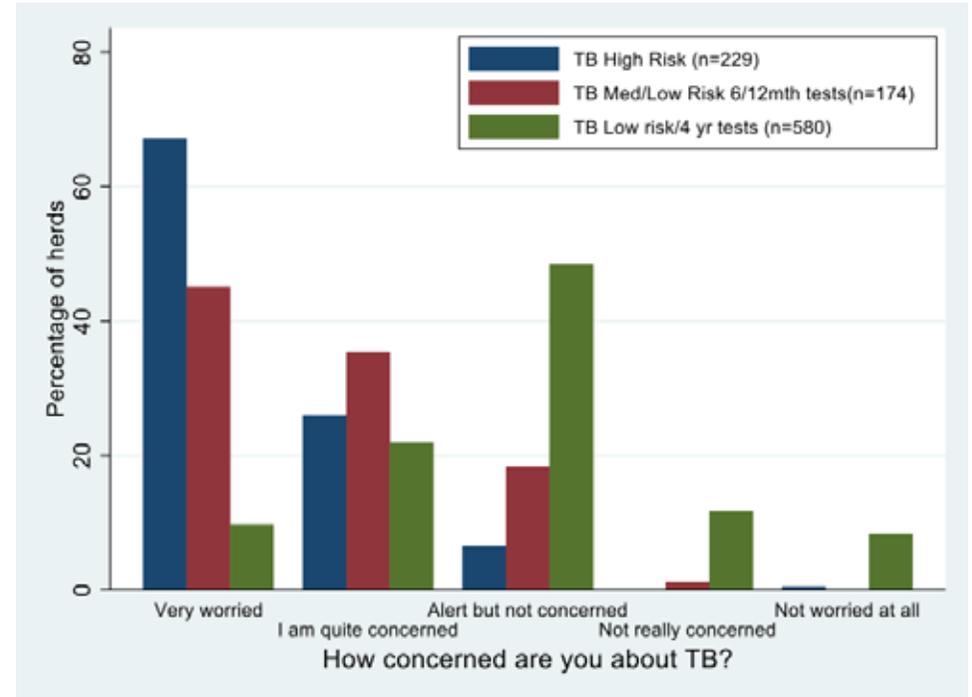
Region	Very worried	Quite worried	Alert but not worried	Not really worried	Not worried at all	Total
Scotland: Central, Borders & South West	6	23	74	9	11	123
%	4.9	18.7	60.2	7.3	8.9	100
Scottish Highlands & Islands	3	24	120	44	31	222
%	1.4	10.8	54.1	19.8	14.0	100
Wales	30	21	16	2	0	69
%	43.5	30.4	23.2	2.9	0	100
Northern Ireland	12	14	9	0	0	35
%	34.3	40	25.7	0	0	100
NE England & Yorks/Humber	11	25	30	5	2	73
%	15.1	34.2	41.1	6.8	2.7	100
NW England & Isle of Man	22	19	10	2	0	53
%	41.5	35.8	18.9	3.8	0	100
East & West Midlands	65	26	19	0	0	110
%	59.1	23.6	17.3	0	0	100
South & SE England	20	15	5	0	0	40
%	50	37.5	12.5	0	0	100
South West England	91	48	12	0	1	152
%	59.9	31.6	7.9	0	0.7	100
E England (East Anglia, Cambs, Herts, Bucks)	11	14	14	5	0	44
%	25	31.8	31.8	11.4	0	100
Total	271	229	309	67	45	921

Correlating this against the TB region each respondent is in shows a similar pattern (Table 27 and Figure 19).

Table 27

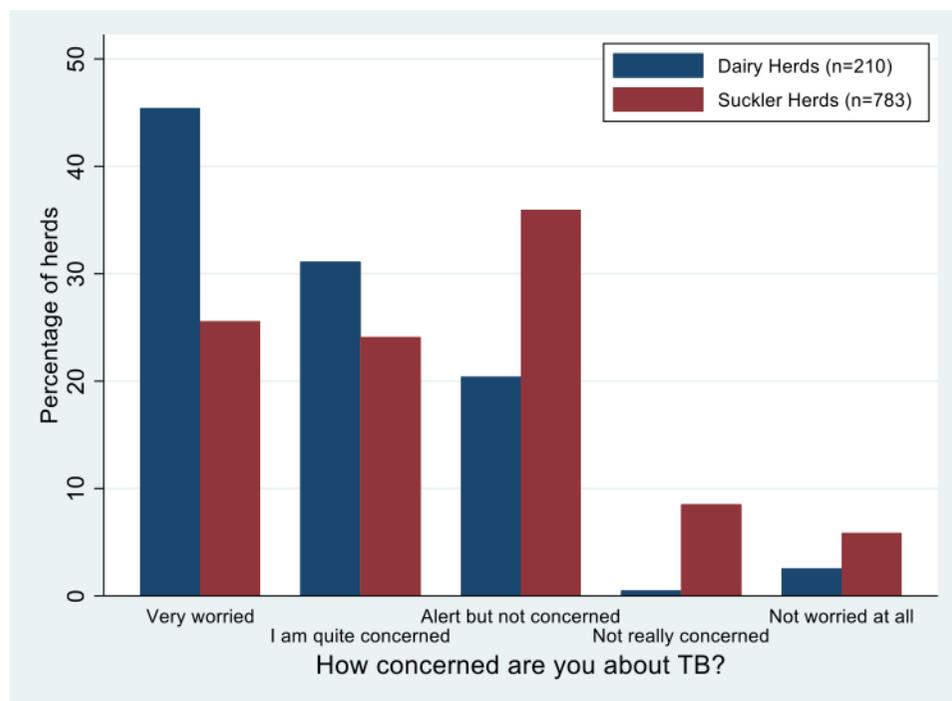
	Concern about TB					Total
	Very worried	Quite worried	Alert but not worried	Not really worried	Not worried at all	
TB Risk Area						
High/High Risk	145	56	14	0	1	216
%	67.1	26.0	6.5	0	0.5	100
Med/Low Risk (6 or 12 mth test)	74	58	30	2	0	164
%	45.1	35.3	18.3	1.2	0	100
Low Risk/4 yr test	54	122	269	65	46	556
%	9.7	21.9	48.4	11.7	8.3	100
Total	273	236	313	67	47	936

Figure 19



There is a significant different in levels of concern shown between suckler herds and dairy herds participating in the survey, with far more dairy herds 'Very worried' (45%) and 'Quite worried' (31%) compared with suckler herds (25% and 24% respectively) (Figure 20).

Figure 20



However, of all respondents answering the question of whether they feel the biosecurity measures required by the Health Schemes reduce risk of a TB breakdown, 52% in the High Risk areas believe they 'Definitely' or 'Probably' do, and a further 15% believe they 'Possibly' do (Table 28).

Table 28

	Concern about TB			Total
	High/High Risk	Med/Low Risk (6-12mth test)	Low Risk/4yr test	
Helped by Health Scheme biosecurity				
Yes definitely	57	32	133	222
%	26.3	19.4	23.9	23.6
Probably yes	55	50	177	282
%	25.4	30.3	31.8	30.0
Possibly	32	36	98	166
%	14.8	21.8	17.6	17.7
Don't know	15	11	34	60
%	6.9	6.7	6.1	6.4
Probably not	34	32	80	146
%	15.7	19.4	14.4	15.6
Definitely not	15	2	4	21
%	6.9	1.2	0.7	2.24
Not relevant	9	2	31	42
%	4.15	1.21	5.57	4.5
Total	217	165	557	939
%	100	100	100	100

When splitting down the responses to dairy and suckler herds, a similar pattern as previously arises where dairy herds are more sceptical and more agnostic or unsure about benefits (Figure 21).

Figure 21

